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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/667,185	09/17/2003	Denise Ann Smith	DS-1-gw-mv	9328
7590	01/03/2005		EXAMINER	
Michael I. Kroll 171 Stillwell Lane Syosset, NY 11791			STONE, JENNIFER A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2636	

DATE MAILED: 01/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/667,185

Applicant(s)

SMITH, DENISE ANN

Examiner

Jennifer A Stone

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 September 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: ____.

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to because item 22 in figures 3 and 8 do not point to the U-turn indicia as disclosed in the specification page 8, "List of Reference Numerals". Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement-drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

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(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Millsap (US 5,680,100).

Millsap discloses a u-turn indicator for a motor vehicle, comprising: a) a motor vehicle having a front and rear opposing ends, a left driver's side and a right side, said motor vehicle having headlights and turn signal lights disposed thereon, wherein said headlights are disposed on said left and right sides of said front end, whereas said turn signal lights are disposed on said left and right sides of said front end and said rear end, said vehicle having a dashboard disposed therein; b) a u-turn signal light disposed on said left side of said front end and said rear end of said vehicle (col 1, lns 36-38; col 2, lns 1-4; col 2, lns 6-13 and 67; col 3, lns 1-3; Fig. 1, item 7), said u-turn signal light having a lens thereon (col 2, lns 1-4; Fig. 1, item 5); c) a u-turn symbol disposed on said lens of said u-turn signal light to permit an operator to signal to other vehicles that the operator is going to make a u-turn (col 1, lns 45 and 46); d) an activation switch for said u-turn signal light being disposed on said dashboard to permit the u-turn signal light to be controlled (col 1, lns 36-40); and , e) means for supplying power to said u-turn signal light and said activation switch whereby the u-turn signal light can be operated (col 2, lns 42-46; Fig. 3, item 47).

4. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Millsap (US 5,680,100).

The claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reasons as stated in the rejection of claim 1 as stated above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Millsap (US 5,680,100), as applied to claim 1, and further in view of Le (US 5,281,950)

For claim 2, Millsap discloses a means for supplying power to said u-turn signal light and said activation switch comprises: a) a battery to permit the motor vehicle u-turn signal light and activation switch to be powered (col 2, lns 44-46; Fig. 3, item 47). Millsap, however, does not disclose a junction box. Le, on the other hand does disclose a junction box for connecting the battery to the wiring system of the motor vehicle. The control module is the connection point for all wires housed in a module and therefore, functions as a junction box. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made to include a junction box in order to obtain access to all wires within the system.

For claim 3, Millsap discloses a turn signal control lever disposed thereon, wherein said activation switch is disposed on said turn signal control lever to permit the u-turn signal light to be controlled (col 3, lns 40-43).

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7. Claims 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Millsap (US 5,680,100), as applied to claim 4, and further in view of Le (US 5,281,950)

Claims 5 and 6 are interpreted and rejected for the same reasons as stated in the rejection of claims 2 and 3, respectively.

8. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Haddad et al. (US 6,195,001) and further in view of Millsap (US 5,680,100).

Haddad discloses a u-turn indicator for a motor vehicle, comprising: a) a motor vehicle having a front and rear opposing ends, a left driver's side and a right side, said motor vehicle having headlights and turn signal lights disposed thereon, wherein said headlights are disposed on said left and right sides of said front end, whereas said turn signal lights are disposed on said left and right sides of said front end and said rear end, said vehicle having a front and rear windshield and dashboard disposed therein (Fig. 1); b) a u-turn signal light disposed within said vehicle positioned within said vehicle proximate said rear windshield (Fig. 1, item 12; col 3, lns 58 and 59), said u-turn signal light having a lens thereon (col 3, lns 62-64; Fig. 3, item 22); c) a u-turn symbol disposed on said lens of said u-turn signal light to permit an operator to signal to other vehicles that the operator is going to make a u-turn (col 1, lns 59-61; col 3, lns 63 and 64; Fig. 2, item 24); d) an activation switch for said u-turn signal light being disposed adjacent to the driver's seat to permit the u-turn signal light to be controlled (col 4, lns 15-22; Fig. 4, 38); and , e) means for supplying power to said u-turn signal light and said activation switch whereby the u-turn signal light can be operated (Fig. 4, item 30; col 4, lns 17-19). In Figure 1, Haddad illustrates what appears to be the activation switch

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(transmitter) located interior the vehicle, next to the driver's seat, on the dashboard;

however, neither the drawings nor the text depict the activation switch in Figure 1.

Millsap, on the other hand, does disclose the activation switch located on a dashboard (col 1, Ins 36-39; Fig. 3). It would have been obvious to locate the activation switch on the dashboard to promote an ergonomically sound environment.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Strawn (US 5,663,708) discloses left rear and left front u-turn signal indicators.

Boxer (US 5,731,755) discloses a front left turn signal indicator.

Roman (US 5,003,289) discloses an attachable turn signal indicator.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jennifer A. Stone whose telephone number is (571) 272.2976. The examiner can normally be reached 8:00-4:30, M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Jeffery Hofsass can be reached at (571) 272.2981. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872.9306 for regular and after final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature of relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272.2600.

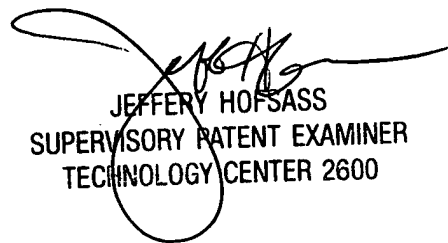
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Jennifer Stone

December 17, 2004



JEFFERY HOFSAAS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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